Case No.: 58975US002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor:

Graessle, Josef A.

Application No.:

10/655328

Confirmation No.: 6102

Filed:

September 4, 2003

Title:

BIOLOGICAL GROWTH PLATE SCANNER WITH AUTOMATED INTAKE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop: Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

| CERTIFICATE C | OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION [37 CFR § 1.8(a)] |
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Pursuant to 37 CFR §§ 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98, enclosed is a completed Form PTO-1449, citing references submitted for consideration by the Examiner. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return the enclosed Form PTO-1449 to indicate that each reference has been considered.

Copies of any cited foreign patents, foreign publications, non-patent literature documents, and any pending U.S. applications filed before June 30, 2003, are enclosed. Copies of any pending U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003 that can be accessed on the USPTO's IFW system are not enclosed as per USPTO Waiver dated September 21, 2004. Copies of any U.S. patents and published U.S. patent applications are not enclosed. It is believed that no fee is due; however, in the event a fee is required, please charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 13-3723.

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Respectfully submitted,

Date

Steven A. Bern, Reg. No.: 57,095 Telephone No.: 651-733-2255

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel 3M Innovative Properties Company

Facsimile No.: 651-736-3833

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO (modified)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Page 1 of 1

| Application Number | 10/655328 |
|----------------------|--------------------|
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| First Named Inventor | Graessle, Josef A. |
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| Attorney Case Number | 58975US002 |

| U.S. Patent Documents | | | | | |
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| | Cite | Document Number | Publication Date | Name of Patentee | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant |
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| | B5 | | | | | | |

| | OTHER DOCUMENTS | | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|--|-------------------------------|--|--|
| Exam. Init.* | Cite No. | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published | Translation (Check if yes) | | |
| | C1 | Corkidi et al.; "COVASIAM: an Image Analysis Method That Allows Detection of Confluent Microbial Colonies and Colonies of Various Sizes for Automated Counting", Applied and Environmental Microbiology, Vol. 64, No.4, April 1998, pp. 1400 – 1404. | | | |
| | C2 | | | | |
| | C3 | | | | |

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